

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 2633

By Mrs. Teahan of Whitman, petition of Kathleen M. Teahan and others relative to fluoride in public water systems. Public Health.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

### PETITION OF:

Kathleen M. Teahan	Gloria L. Fox
Mark C. Montigny	Lewis G. Evangelidis
Christine E. Canavan	Thomas M. Stanley
Barbara A. L'Italien	Karyn E. Polito
Ruth B. Balser	Paul Kujawski
Shirley Gomes	Patricia D. Jehlen
Brian Knuuttila	Mary E. Grant
Martha M. Walz	Susan C. Fargo
Elizabeth A. Malia	Benjamin Swan
Michael F. Rush	Joyce A. Spiliotis
Kay Khan	Mark V. Falzone
Shirley Gomes	Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.
Rachel Kaprielian	Susan C. Tucker

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT TO IMPROVE THE ORAL HEALTH OF CHILDREN AND OTHER RESIDENTS OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

- 1 Chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking
- 2 out section 8C and inserting in place thereof the following
- 3 section:—
- 4 Section 8C. (a) The department in taking cognizance of the
- 5 dental health of the people in the commonwealth shall recommend
- 6 such methods as in its opinion are advisable to reduce or limit the
- 7 prevalence of dental caries and other dental diseases and defects.

8 The department shall promulgate regulations to provide for the  
9 addition of fluoride to all municipal water supplies by the owners  
10 or official custodians thereof wherever the fluoride content of  
11 public water supplies serving 5,000 or more persons supplies less  
12 than the minimum concentration of fluoride established by regula-  
13 tion. In such instances, the person, firm, corporation or munici-  
14 pality having jurisdiction over the supply shall add a measured  
15 amount of fluoride to the water so as to maintain a fluoride con-  
16 tent that complies with the regulations promulgated pursuant to  
17 this section. Subject to appropriation, the department shall reim-  
18 burse the owners or official custodians of a water supply for the  
19 reasonable expenses of complying with this section, as determined  
20 by the department.

21 (b) The regulations shall include, but not be limited to, the  
22 following:

23 (1) minimum and maximum permissible concentrations of fluo-  
24 ride to be maintained by fluoridation of public water systems;

25 (2) requirements and procedures for maintaining proper con-  
26 centrations of fluoride, including equipment, testing, record-  
27 keeping, and reporting.

28 (3) requirements for the addition of fluoride to public water  
29 systems in which the natural level of fluoride is less than the min-  
30 imum level established in the regulations; and

31 (4) all other regulations necessary to administer this section so  
32 as to improve the dental health of children and other residents of  
33 the Commonwealth, including a procedure for granting reasonable  
34 exemptions from the requirements of this section.